



St Mary Magdalene's Church

"The best is yet to come"

Parish Newsletter 15th March 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The man born blind (John 9) is healed, questioned, pressured—and yet he becomes brave. His testimony is wonderfully simple: **"One thing I know: I was blind and now I see."** Lent is meant to bring us to that kind of clarity.

Sometimes we think faith must be complicated. But the Gospel shows the opposite: faith begins when we let Jesus touch what is wounded, confused, or hidden. The real danger is not weakness—it is refusing to see.

This week, make one practical choice to live in the light: stop gossip, apologise first, forgive, or let go of a harsh judgement. Pray each day: *"Lord, enlighten the darkness of my heart."* This is how disciples are formed—by learning to see with the eyes of Christ.

Fr. Leszek

St Mary Magdalene's

Roman Catholic Church

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LENT SERVICES FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday – 10.00am Holy Mass, after Mass
Stations of the Cross.

12.30pm Holy Mass (*Polish*)

Monday – 9.30am

Tuesday – 4.30pm Confession; 5.00pm

Wednesday – 9.30am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after
Holy Mass

Thursday – 9.30am

Friday – 9.30am;

6.15pm Stations of the Cross followed by
Holy Mass (*Polish*)

Saturday – 9.30am

HOSPITAL VISITS BY A PRIEST:

If you know someone in hospital who would like a visit from a priest for prayer, spiritual support, Holy Communion (Viaticum: communion for dying), Confession, or the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the Priest on call, at 07842538056 ASAP.



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First reading—Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

“David is anointed king of Israel.”

Responsorial Psalm—Ps 23(22)

The Lord is my shepherd there is nothing I shall want

Second reading—Ephesians 5:8-14

“Arise from the dead and Christ will shine on you.”

Gospel Acclamation—8:12

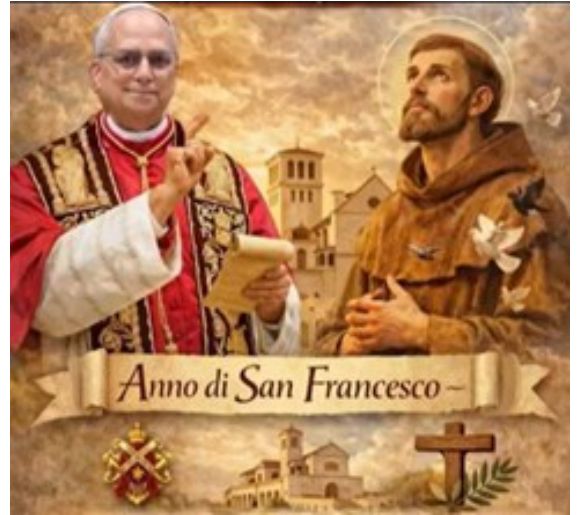
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus

Gospel—John: 9:1-41

“He went and washed and received his sight.”



ST FRANCIS’ OF ASSISI JUBILEE

The healed man says:

“One thing I know:

I was blind and now I see” (Jn 9).

St Francis loved this plain, honest faith. The Franciscan Jubilee invites us to a Lent of simplicity: less judgement, more compassion; less noise, more prayer.

This week, ask Jesus for light in one area of your life—and take one small step to live in that light: stop gossip, forgive, or encourage someone who is struggling.

SCIAF Wee Boxes are available during Lent.

Please take one home and use it for your Lenten almsgiving. Through your small sacrifices and generous support, you can help SCIAF bring hope and practical help to people in need.

Thank you for your generosity.

Parish Mother’s Day Wishes (Mothering Sunday)



Dear Mothers,

On this **Mothering Sunday**, our parish family gives thanks to God for each of you. Through your love, patience, sacrifice, and faith, you reveal something of God’s own tenderness and care.

Thank you for the quiet prayers you offer for your families, for the strength you show in difficult moments,

and for the joy and warmth you bring to our homes and to our parish community.

May the Lord bless you abundantly, strengthen you in your vocation, and fill your hearts with His peace. Through the intercession of **Mary, the Mother of Jesus**, may you always know how precious your love is in God’s eyes.

Happy Mother’s Day and may God bless all mothers, grandmothers, and those who care for others with a mother’s heart.

*With gratitude and prayer,
Your Parish Community*

USE YOUR WEE BOX TO MAKE A BIG CHANGE DONATE TODAY



MESSAGE FROM BISHOP BRIAN MCGEE, PRESIDENT OF SCIAF

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

On this fourth Sunday of Lent, I write to you, on behalf of all the Bishops of Scotland, to thank you for your continued support of the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund, our Church's own relief and development agency. In the year that follows SCIAF's 60th Anniversary, we give thanks for the countless lives that have been transformed through your prayers and generosity.

For six decades, the Catholic community in Scotland has shown love in action – reaching out to our sisters and brothers living in the world's poorest places and showing that faith truly changes lives. This Lent, SCIAF's WEE BOX Appeal focuses on Ethiopia, a country that has long worked hard to build a better future.

Families have been growing stronger, children have been going to school, and communities have been full of hope. But now, much of that progress is being undone. Years of conflict, drought, flooding, and cuts to aid have left millions struggling to survive. In the northern region of Tigray, the Church has been a steadfast presence. Even when war and violence drove others away, I can personally witness that the Church remained, serving those in need.

As Fr Abraha from SCIAF's local partner, the Adigrat Diocesan Catholic Secretariat (ADCS), explained: "The Church is a voice for the voiceless. When everyone else left, the Church stayed: to serve, to speak, and to give people courage. We serve all human beings, whatever their faith. With no water there is no life – yet, little by little, we are helping people survive." Through your generous support, SCIAF and its Church partners are providing clean water, food, and shelter, and helping families rebuild their lives – restoring not just livelihoods but also hope.

Fr Abraha went on to say: "I appreciate, and would like to thank, the Catholics of Scotland for what you have all done for us, for our people, and our community. We are very grateful for what you have done and what you will do in the future. The Scottish people are our pillars – and today, you are still helping us." In his apostolic exhortation *Dilexi Te*, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that "love for the poor, whatever the form their poverty may take, is the evangelical hallmark of a Church faithful to the heart of God."

This Lent, we are called once more to live out that love: through prayer, fasting, and giving. Your support to SCIAF's WEE BOX Appeal can help families in Ethiopia – and across the world – access clean water, grow food, and find stability and peace.

From Scotland to Ethiopia, your compassion keeps both water, and hope, flowing. Thank you for your continued generosity and for the love you show to our sisters and brothers around the world.

Together, as one family of faith, we can make a difference and build a world where all God's children can flourish. May God bless you and your families this holy season of Lent.

**Bishop Brian McGee Bishop President of SCIAF
On behalf of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland**

Rekolekcje Wielkopostne

W dniach 22–24 marca
w naszej parafii odbędą się
Rekolekcje Wielkopostne,
które poprowadzi o. Patryk Zakrzewski OP,
dominikanin postępujący w Irlandii.

*Będzie to szczególnie czas modlitwy,
słuchania Słowa Bożego oraz duchowego przygotowania
do Świąt Wielkanocnych.*

PROGRAM REKOLEKCJI

Niedziela – 22 marca

12.30 – Wystawienie N. Sakramentu;
Gorzkie Żale. *W czasie nabożeństwa możliwość spowiedzi.*
Po nabożeństwie – Msza święta z nauką rekolekcyjną.

Poniedziałek – 23 marca

18.00 – Adoracja Najświętszego Sakramentu
i możliwość spowiedzi
19.00 – Msza święta z nauką rekolekcyjną

Wtorek – 24 marca

18.00 – Adoracja Najświętszego Sakramentu
i możliwość spowiedzi
19.00 – Msza święta z nauką rekolekcyjną

*Serdecznie zapraszamy wszystkich parafian
do udziału w tym czasie łaski.*

Niech rekolekcje pomogą nam odnowić naszą wiarę,
pojednać się z Bogiem w sakramencie pokuty
i przygotować serca na radość Zmartwychwstania.